

Baptist And Reflector

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News-Journal Of The Tennessee Baptist Convention

Church Music Workshop To Be Held On Carson-Newman Campus

A church music workshop will be held at Carson-Newman college Jan. 26-27, according to Frank Charton, state music secretary.



Landgrave

The workshop is being sponsored jointly by the Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia chapter at Carson-Newman and the Church Music Department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. The program will consist of an adult choir rehearsal techniques and repertoire session featuring an adult choir made up of singers

from Jefferson City, Morristown, and Knoxville. The session will be held from 7:30-9:00 p.m. Jan. 26.

A contemporary church music study, to be held Jan. 27 from 9:30-10:45 a.m. will feature the A Cappella choir of Carson-Newman college under the direction of Phil Landgrave, professor of church music at Southern Baptist Theological seminary in Louisville, Ky.

Registration will be held in Jefferson City, Charton said.



The first National Service-Aide award ever presented to a Tennessean was received recently by Kenny Rains, a freshman at Carson-Newman college and a member of the Royce church in Oak Ridge. Shown above with Rains (left) is Bill Highsmith, state Royal Ambassador secretary. The national award is given to a young man who has completed 750 hours of service to his church, association, and denomination. With the national award plaque, Rains received a \$1000 scholarship to Carson-Newman.



Remains of Belmont college's Blanton Hall.

Belmont Trustees Vote To Build Twin Structures At \$1,750,000

By David Keel

The Board of Trustees of Belmont college, Nashville, meeting on Jan. 5, approved plans for twin buildings to replace historic Blanton Hall which was destroyed by fire on Saturday evening, Dec. 30. The 26 of the school's 33 trustees present also employed an architectural firm and pledged \$95,000 toward the project of the new facilities which will cost \$1,500,000 plus \$250,000 for furnishings for both. Concerning their action, Belmont president Herbert C. Gabhart said, "The action taken by this board today is one of the most significant in the history of this college. It indicates a dedication and generosity on the part of our trustees which is magnanimous. For this, I shall be eternally grateful."

On Sunday, Dec. 31, the executive committee of the trustees met and asked John A. Preston and Associates Architects to do preliminary sketches of facilities to replace the 50 year-old structure lost in the blaze of Dec. 30. This firm was employed during the trustees', Jan. 5 meeting. Sketches presented at this meeting were approved and depict twin structures which will face each other. They are to be joined by covered walkways with a courtyard between them, and are to be located on the southern end of the campus where Blanton Hall stood, according to Jim Cox, Public Relations director for the school. Cox also stated that Blanton Hall annex, untouched by the flames, will be left temporarily.

Blanton Non-Functional

The two structures will be three stories each. One building will house the sciences (physics, chemistry, and biology) and the other one will include the humanities (English, psychology, and sociology). In each building will be 24 classrooms, 24 faculty offices, representing eight classrooms and eight offices on each of the three floors. Each classroom is to be approximately 20 feet by 30 feet.

The trustees also voted to negotiate a contract with Boone Contracting Co., Inc., of Nashville for the construction of the dual-facility on a cost plus basis and set
(Continued on page 9)

Beware Of The Evil Eye!

By Herschel H. Hobbs

"O foolish Galatians, who hath bewitched you, that ye should not obey the truth, before whose very eyes Jesus Christ hath been evidently set forth, crucified among you?"—Gal. 3:1.

Paul's exasperation with his readers is seen in the epithet "foolish Galatians". Phillips renders this "dear idiots of Galatia." But as J. W. MacGorman says, "This seems a bit overripe" (Nashville: **The Broadman Bible Commentary**, Vol. II, Broadman, 1971, pp. 95-96). The word "foolish" renders a word meaning those who do not use their minds. If they thought through the matter of their spiritual experience they would see that it was rooted, not in legalism, but in the redemptive work of Christ alone (see Gal. 3:2-5). "That ye should not obey the truth" is not in the best texts.

They had been "bewitched". This word is related to the idea of leading astray by feigned praise or putting the evil eye on someone (see Deut. 28:54). This verb is found in the papyri in the sense of the evil eye and witchcraft. Of course, Paul did not believe in such. But at a loss to explain the Galatians' being misled by the Judaizers, he taunts them by saying that someone had cast a spell over them with the evil eye.

Playing on this idea he says that before their very eyes Jesus Christ had been portrayed as crucified for their sins. Would

God have permitted this were there any other way to save men? Obviously the answer is a negative one.

"Evidently set forth" translates a verb meaning to write beforehand (**prographō**). It was also used of a public proclamation, to placard or to post up. One papyri example is that of a father posting a proclamation that he no longer would be responsible for his son's debts.

Christ crucified on a cross was God's proclamation that only by his death and resurrection could man be saved. In reverse to the father and his son's debts, the heavenly Father posted this proclamation that He would assume the debts of sin for all who believe in His Son.

The tragedy is that today, like the Galatians, so many people have come under the evil eye of those who teach salvation by works plus faith in Jesus. So the apostle's warning still stands. Do not let such put the **evil eye** on you. For salvation is by grace through faith and in that alone.



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Pulpit To Pew

By Jim Griffith

A missionary friend in Japan sent a clipping datelined Kyoto: "A hearse company reported to police that thieves stole a vehicle specially designed for transporting the dead."

Surprising as it may seem, there are many misguided church folks who ride in "vehicles for the dead" rather than the living.

One such vehicle is that old model: "The church just ain't what it used to be." Well, it never was—and, in many instances, one can be grateful that it is so.

Another such church vehicle for the dead is: "We've always done it this way." Called the six last words of the church, this old vehicle has gotten a lot of mileage, but it often goes down a road that leads nowhere.

And so, when these "vehicles of the dead" pass your way, let them pass, as you reflect on the question from the Scripture: "Why seek ye the living among the dead?"

FEATURING

	Page
Pulpit To Pew	2
Editorials	4
Sunday School Lessons	7, 14
Executive Secretary	15

Devotional

The Powers Of Evangelism

By Archie D. King, Pastor
Southeast Baptist Church, Murfreesboro

Paul was a great success in reaching others for Christ and His Kingdom. Paul's spirit as shown in Romans ten and one reveals the secret of his success.



King

Every Christian would be wise to run a check on his own outreach attitude according to this verse. In writing to the Romans Paul said, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved."

Paul had real love and concern for Israel. Every Christian would be moving in the direction of reaching others, if he could quote this verse and insert the people of his community where Paul says, "Israel".

Looking back in the verse we see "heart's desire." No man ever wins victories in anything that he does not have his heart in. This means he was doing all he could do humanly to reach Israel. However, a man can exert all the human strength at his disposal and still fail, if this is all he has to use.

Next Paul said, "... and prayer to God". When he prayed he had all the help and strength of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. However, this is not enough to reach men being alone. The Lord made the choice to use human instrumentality; therefore it takes "heart's desire" and "prayer to God" to reach our "Israel" for Christ.

These powers are still needed today for evangelism.

Baptist Astronaut Travels For Reconciliation

James B. Irwin, an American astronaut who walked on the moon during the Apollo 15 lunar mission in 1971, has become an ambassador for the Baptist World Alliance's World Mission of Reconciliation through Jesus Christ.

Irwin and his wife Mary have been traveling with Joseph B. Underwood, general chairman of the World Mission of Reconciliation, on a tour of the Orient. Underwood reports that the presence of the Irwins has opened doors not otherwise available to the Baptist witness.

Irwin resigned from the American space program last July so he could give full time to Christian witness. His trip to the Orient is financed by the Foreign Mission Board of the Southern Baptist Convention (U.S.A.) (EBPS)

Baptist Property Suffers Damage From Earthquake

MANAGUA, Nicaragua—All six Baptist churches in this capital city of Nicaragua were destroyed and the buildings housing the Baptist seminary were seriously damaged in the earthquake which hit two days before Christmas.

The American Baptist hospital in the city was 80 per cent destroyed, according to reports from American Baptist Churches' headquarters in Valley Forge, Pa., USA.

American Baptist Churches (formerly Convention) has had a missionary ministry in Nicaragua for many years, a spokesman said.

From local churches to the Baptist World Alliance, Baptists responded immediately to the mounting needs here with open hearts and hands.

Although the Southern Baptist Convention has no missionaries in Nicaragua, the SBC Foreign Mission Board authorized use of \$5000 for emergency aid. The SBC board sent A. Clark Scanlon, its field representative for Central America, to assess the needs.

All patients in the American Baptist hospital in Managua were evacuated before it collapsed, said Dr. Gustavo Parajon an appointee of American Baptist International Ministries who contacted ABC officials in the United States by short-wave radio.

Dr. Parajon said no American Baptist churches missionary personnel or members of their families were among the thousands killed or injured in the quake which devastated the city of 300,000.

Due to scarcity of communications and transportation facilities, information about conditions at the scene was difficult to piece together more than a week after the disaster struck.

As tons of material flowed into Managua from donors the world over, conflicting reports arose concerning the need for doctors and medical supplies.

Amigos Internacionales, an organization of Christian medical practitioners sponsored by the Baptist General Convention of Texas, was ready to send a plane load of doctors with medical supplies, if needed, according to Baptist leaders in Dallas.

However, a U.S. State Department official told "Baptist Press" that medical personnel and supplies in the quake-torn area were adequate.

An official from the Nicaraguan state task force group in Washington, D.C., said the number of people injured was not as great as generally assumed compared to the number killed. Apparently most people had sufficient warning to evacuate buildings before they collapsed.

The State Department official said two field hospitals totaling 124 beds had been set up in Managua but few people needed to be hospitalized. Doctors treated about 1000 people in the first day or two, she said.

Robert C. Campbell, Valley Forge, General Secretary of American Baptist Churches, said a bulletin was being sent to executive ministers of the denomination's regions, states, and cities. He said letters signed by himself and by ABC Associate General Secretary Chester J. Jump were being mailed to all ABC pastors urging churches to receive a special offering for relief of the Managua earthquake victims on the Sundays of Jan. 7 and/or 14.

W. Hubert Porter, another ABC official, was named to coordinate American Baptist relief efforts. Porter said \$5000 has been made available for Managua from reserve funds.

A succession of disastrous floods and other catastrophes during the year had depleted the budget of the ABC World Relief Committee, Porter added.

The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board authorized Jimmy Allen, pastor of First Baptist Church, San Antonio, Tex., to buy a new jeep-type vehicle and have it flown to Managua for use by American Baptist hospital staff as an ambulance and supply vehicle.

"I'm glad our Foreign Mission Board was ready to move quickly to meet needs in Managua," said Allen.

After meeting emergency needs, aid from Southern Baptists will be channeled through the Nicaraguan National Baptist leaders, said Charles Bryan, Secretary for Middle America for the SBC Foreign Mission Board.

During the first week after the quake, Bryan said, a number of pastors contacted him concerning aid to Managua. Funds for this purpose should be designated "earthquake relief" and sent to the SBC Foreign Mission Board, Richmond, Va., he said.

Baptist World Alliance headquarters in Washington, D.C., also is collecting relief donations for Nicaragua.

Plans for rebuilding Baptist facilities were indefinite since Nicaraguan officials had not decided where to relocate the city.

"We're not yet trying to meet emergency needs," said Bryan. "Personal involvement will come later. As soon as we know the situation we will issue information on needs for volunteers to assist in rebuilding churches and other Baptist facilities."

BWA officials also said they had authorized Dr. Robert A. Hingson of the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine in the USA to confer with the Central American Health Council and with Dr. Ramiro Cruz, administrator of the American Baptist Hospital in Managua. Dr. Hingson is a Baptist layman and physician.

Dr. Hingson's painless "peace gun," an inoculation device that immunizes without a needle, received widespread notice when used to give injections to thousands of people in South America and Africa. (BP)

Oil Mixes Texan And Norwegian Baptists

The Baptist church of Stavanger, in western Norway, had a fellowship evening on November 19 with about 30 Baptists and their children from Texas, U.S.A.

These Texas families have moved to Norway in the course of the past two years to work in some phase of oil production. Some plan to stay 10 or maybe 20 years.

Although the Christians of nine denominations have formed a Protestant interdenominational church which is to serve the approximately 200 American families in the area, the Baptist church of Stavanger and the Baptists from the United States will now have regular contacts. Teen-agers from both countries formed friendly relationships immediately, and they have already planned for common meetings each week.

The fellowship evening provided reports and testimonies from both groups of Baptists. An oil engineer from Texas said: "We know that God has brought us here. Not only for producing oil. He must have another purpose in it. We do not yet see it clearly. But we are willing to serve him."

This first fellowship meeting was prepared and directed by the local pastor, Olav Frikstad; the evangelism secretary for the Baptists of Norway, Gunter Wieske; and a couple from Texas. (EBPS)



(Liberian Information Service photo)

Mrs. William R. Tolbert Jr., Liberia's first lady, recently presented the "life beautiful" award to Miss Martha Flanjay, an 11th grade student at Baptist-sponsored Ricks Institute near Monrovia. Judges chose Miss Flanjay from among three candidates, all Girls' Auxiliary queens, as the one who best exemplified the beautiful life of a Christian young woman. This is the first such award to be given by the Woman's Missionary Union of Liberia; Mrs. Tolbert, a Baptist, is president of the national organization. The award is a bracelet with a gold "life beautiful" charm.

EDITORIALS

Opportunity From Ashes

Tennessee Baptists were saddened by the recent loss by fire of the main classroom building at Belmont college. This destruction of Blanton Hall represented a loss in replacement value of approximately two million dollars. For any Baptist college, this is a substantial loss.

The building, approximately 50 years old, WILL BE REPLACED! Not, however, in the same structural type. Seldom have we seen any administrative group and board of trustees move as quickly and as efficiently as has President Herbert Gabhart and Belmont's Board of Trustees. By Friday of this past week, the trustees alone had pledged approximately \$100,000.00 toward cost of construction of new facilities. Plans have been made for construction of two separate units. (see story, page one) Emergency plans have been made and executed for classroom space while the new facilities are being constructed.

Apart from the rapidity with which plans for reconstruction have been made, we must pay editorial tribute to President Gabhart and the trustees for the optimistic and positive approach which they have taken. Not once has President Gabhart expressed anything but optimism and determination to make of the unfortunate loss opportunity for advancement.

To accomplish the objectives of our Middle Tennessee college, Belmont will need the prayers and support of all Tennessee Baptists. Just prior to press time, the Education Committee of the Convention was to meet at Belmont and make additional plans and recommendations.

To President Gabhart, the trustees, and the entire student body, upon behalf of Tennessee Baptists, we extend our sympathy upon the loss of the building. At the same time we rejoice in the attitudes which have literally made "Opportunity From Ashes." (JAL)

Alcoholism Still A Problem

It may be a losing battle, but for what it is worth, we go on record again as expressing our extreme distaste and regret that the alcohol "traffic" continues to increase at alarming proportions; at the same time, increasing substantially the number of alcoholics.

Frankly, we gave up a long time ago trying to find a restaurant which didn't serve alcoholic beverages and at the same time served rather good meals (although we still find a few). But whether we like to admit it or not, we are fast becoming a nation of heavy drinkers. We continue to express disappointment and displeasure that the sale of alcohol is not treated in the same category as the sale or illegal use of dangerous drugs. To us, alcoholic beverages for many people are more dangerous than some of the drugs for which heavy penalties are imposed for usage. Yet, we license the stores, their products are sold, and the accident record on the highways, broken homes, run away children, all bear record concerning the end result of these sales.

For what it is worth, we still do not like the emphasis upon sale and use of alcoholic beverages in any shape, form or fashion. But, it looks as if our opinion is in the minority. We still believe it, however.

Worthy Of Remembering

The following, copied from the Senior Adult Bible Study Quarterly for the last part of 1972 is worth reading by a wider group. We are therefore reprinting it.

This Session in Life

As we face the coming year, there are certain things we can remember:

First, as God has been with us in the past, he will be with us in the future. God is not affected by time. His power to sustain remains constant.

Second, we are a link in the chain of fulfilment. The unfulfilled dreams of our fathers were passed on to us. Many of our hopes will need to be completed by future generations. But, we are a link in the fulfilment. We need only to be faithful to our task.

Third, God needs your whole life. As senior adults, you have much to offer Christ. You have experience. You have training. You have time. Give this period of your life to Christ and His church.

Fourth, believe in the future. God is not dead. He will work with future generations as He is working in ours.

An Oft-stated Fact



THIS BOOK WILL KEEP
YOU FROM SIN,

OR SIN WILL KEEP
YOU FROM THIS
BOOK.

Church Uses Funeral For 14 To Show Faith

AUSTIN, Tex.—Woodlawn Baptist church here practiced the faith it preaches as it conducted funeral services for victims of the tragic bus-truck collision which occurred during the Christmas holidays.

Fourteen of the dead lay in a single row of caskets at the front of Austin's Municipal auditorium for a simple, brief, but hope-filled Saturday afternoon service, led by the church's pastor, James Abington.

"Praise God" were the first words of the choir number at the funeral, attended by almost 5000 persons, including former President and Mrs. Lyndon B. Johnson.

"God is good, and heaven is richer," Abington said in his funeral message. "They (the victims) deserve royal dignity, but they prefer beautiful simplicity."

Most of the 19 who died in the collision, 500 miles from home, were young people 13 to 20 years of age.

But the dead numbered Beverly Hicks, 34, wife of the church's minister of education, as well as their daughter, Robin, 13. It included the driver of the bus, Jerry Estes, 41, and his wife.

Flags Fly At Half Mast

The Estes formerly belonged to Woodlawn church but had recently moved to San Antonio to work. They had promised to help drive and chaperon the more than 60 young people taking part in a four day ski-and-worship retreat near Santa Fe, N. M., during the holiday week between Christmas and New Year's Day.

They were buried at separate services in San Antonio. Three other victims were buried at separate services in Austin.

Outside the auditorium, flags flew at half-mast. A number of businesses in Austin closed for an hour in memory of the dead.

The hope that pervaded the Saturday afternoon funeral carried over into the Sunday morning worship service, according to Larry Jerden, assistant editor of the "Baptist Standard," who attended the funeral and Sunday service.

The 500-seat auditorium filled quickly for the first of two morning preaching services held by the 2200-member congregation.

The auditorium showed evidence of "the contrasting signs of holiday and tragedy once again standing beside each other," Jerden reported. Funeral flowers stood in front of Christmas candles and a globe from the Lottie Moon offering emphasis, while holiday poinsettias and funeral roses lined the platform."

The church bus parked near the auditorium reminded people again of the tragedy. It was carrying about half the group to the retreat and had passed safely over the bridge only seconds before the second, chartered bus collided with the truck.

Many Services Cancelled

The church bulletin announced cancellation of most church meetings during the

first of the new year, although the midweek prayer service would be conducted.

It also reported a youth memorial fund had been established to aid those involved in the tragedy.

There were tears as a choir member sang Sunday morning, but they were "set against a smile of joy and hope," Jerden added. Abington preached on the reality of heaven.

In the morning's two services, 37 joined the church, including 17 by personal commitment of faith in Christ.

The 400 families of Woodlawn church include blue-collar workers, young executives, and military personnel, the "Dallas Morning News" reported in a special feature by Marilyn Schwartz. Most know each other on a first-name basis and live within a five-mile radius of one another.

There were tragedies even within the tragedy.

Mrs. Betsy Pinkerton, an elderly woman, had five grandchildren in the wrecked bus. Three were killed, and one was injured.

Tom Sullivan suffered head injuries in the wreck and remains in critical condition in a hospital in Lubbock, Tex. His father, Maj. F. J. Sullivan, has been a prisoner of war in North Vietnam for five years.

The cattle truck jackknifed as it met the bus on a 20-foot wide bridge on U.S. 60 east of Fort Sumner, N.M. The bus plowed into the side of the truck. The truck apparently brushed a guard rail in the darkness

Methodist Bishop Garber Dies; Headed Big Post-War Area

NEW YORK—Bishop Paul Neff Garber, who was resident Methodist bishop of Europe and North Africa in the years immediately following World War II, died in a Geneva hospital Dec. 18, at the age of 73, the denomination's U.S. headquarters reported here.

When he arrived in Algiers in March, 1945, Bishop Garber became the first resident Methodist bishop of the area since 1939. In 1946, he became the first representative of the World Council of Churches to establish personal contact with churches in Yugoslavia. (RNS)

J. G. Miller, pastor of Broadway Baptist church, Memphis, died on Sunday, December 24. **Baptist And Reflector** for January 4 carried the story on the death of Pastor Miller, but the date was not mentioned.

as it attempted to give clearance to the bus, causing it to jackknife.

As the investigation of the accident continued, it appeared neither the bus driver, who died, nor the trucker, who survives, was guilty of a traffic infraction. The cause was being attributed to the narrow bridge. (BP)



Nearly 300 Vietnamese Baptists and their invited guests attended outdoor ceremonies in Saigon recently and dedicated their newly completed office facilities. The three story structure contains business offices, the Vietnam Baptist Publications, a Baptist Book Store, conference rooms, and accommodations for missionary personnel residing outside the capital city. Southern Baptist missionaries first entered South Vietnam in November 1959. There are presently 40 missionaries under appointment by the Foreign Mission Board to South Vietnam.

'A MIND TO WORK'

By Mrs. Michael J. Ledbetter
Southern Baptist Representative

ZAPOPAN, Mexico—It seems that all 56 members of the First Baptist church of Zapopan have the "mind to work" that we read about in the book of Nehemiah (4:6): "So built we the wall . . . for the people had a mind to work." Here we are witnessing a modern day building of the "wall."

Our little church is the only evangelical one in the suburb of Guadalajara. The town's name is almost synonymous with that of the Virgin, because this is her "home." Each year on October 12, her day, a half million people throng the Queen's Highway, making a pilgrimage to the big cathedral to pay her homage.

What a contrast! But ever since our church was organized three years ago, its members have been dreaming, talking, planning and saving for the construction of a building. We believe the secret of this enthusiasm lies in our pastor, Brother Carlos Roberto Arrazate.

Under his leadership and initiative, even the poorest families have found ways of making money to donate to the building fund. One woman brings pies to church to sell. A few weeks ago I ordered a lemon pie and was to get it after the morning worship service. However, during the time when everyone comes forward to bring an offering for the building fund, she slipped up to the organ and asked if I would pay her so she could make her offering then.

Another woman's offering came from selling soup at a little table on the sidewalk. A 12-year-old girl made cupcakes and sold them at school, giving the money to the building fund.

All of us save newspapers and the pastor sells them. He gets glucose bottles from the hospital which are washed and sold to a friend who sells honey in them.

Brother Arrazate supplies each family in the church with a Carnation milk can (his little boy drinks the milk), and we fill these with change. So consistently is this change deposited at the bank that the cashier became curious and inquired about it. When she learned where the money came from she offered to help and has already filled two cans for our building fund!

Brother Arrazate's optimistic, enthusiastic spirit is contagious. Educated as a lawyer, he was once secretary to the president of Salvador, his native country. It was through him that Christians there got permission to build an evangelical radio station.

He has been a man of wealth, yet we are amazed to see how willingly he gives away much of the little he now receives. Recently he earned \$800 commission from selling a house. He had promised to buy his wife a washing machine, but at the very time he received the money the church had such a

need for it that he and his wife decided to donate it toward construction costs.

A few weeks later a couple leaving Mexico gave the Arrazates their washing machine. With his face shining our pastor said: "That's the story of my life—the Lord always outgives me!"

As the church building grows, the body of believers is growing too. Two bricklayers worked for several weeks receiving only half the wages they would get at another job. One of them has accepted Christ as his Savior and Lord.

Almost every week in neighborhood prayer fellowships someone comes to know the Lord. As this is written, 21 adults await baptism; they all want to wait until they can be baptized in our own building.

And it will be finished—for the people have a mind to work!

Noncommissioned Officers View Evangelistic Films

TAEJON, Korea—Three hundred students at a school for noncommissioned officers were expected to view two evangelistic films shown by Southern Baptist missionary Rolla M. Bradley.

When he arrived at the school, Bradley learned that two showings had been scheduled. A chaplain's assistant later reported that 1560 men viewed the films. Of this number, 284 filled out decision cards saying that they were accepting Christ as Savior. Each will receive a personal letter of encouragement. In addition, their parents will receive form letters urging them also to accept Christ, says Bradley.

Other letters will be sent to the nearest Baptist church in the areas where the parents live, or to a Protestant church if no Baptist church is near. Each soldier-student will be enrolled in a 12-lesson study course, "Who Is Jesus?" A military chaplain often teaches this course to groups of new believers, adds Bradley.

"At present the Korean military is very receptive to such a ministry as this, and we as missionaries are being invited and allowed access to many bases across the nation of South Korea," he reports.

'Bread Cast Upon Water'

SANTO DOMINGO, Dominican Republic—Southern Baptist missionary Howard Shoemake gave a policeman a ride. The officer saw a copy of the New Testament on Shoemake's dashboard and commented: "I read my Bible every day." When the missionary asked how he happened to develop this habit, the policeman answered: "Last Christmas someone gave me a New Testa-



PRISONERS REUNITE—Herbert Caudill (left) congratulates J. David Fite who received the Doctor of Theology degree at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary during winter commencement. Caudill and Fite were missionaries to Cuba in 1965 when they were arrested and imprisoned for 42 months. Upon their release, Fite enrolled in the seminary to begin doctoral work, and is presently serving as director of Southwestern's continuing education program. Caudill, Fite's father-in-law, is retired and living in Georgia.

Pastoral Consultant Named At Board

NASHVILLE—The church administration department at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board has named Robert Dale, pastor of First Southern Baptist church, Lawrence, Kans., as pastoral ministries consultant specializing in summer youth work.

"Dale will assist in conferences for pastors and youth workers who are interested in summer youth programs," said Ernest Mosley, section supervisor. "He will also be responsible for developing products for use in conducting a summer youth program in local churches.

"Another area of his responsibility is pastoral care. Bob will coordinate the planning and conducting of conferences in pastoral care and will assist state convention and associational leaders in conducting conferences in that area."

A native of Missouri, Dale received the associate in arts degree from Southwest Baptist College, Bolivar, and the bachelor of arts degree from Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee. He attended Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, where he earned the doctor of theology and bachelor of divinity degrees in areas of Christian ethics, pastoral care and theology. (BP)

ment as a gift. That is the best gift I have ever received in my life." (It is the custom here to give a gift to the traffic policeman at corners one passes frequently.) As they talked, Shoemake discovered that the Testament was in one of several packets he had prepared for distribution the preceding Christmas.

Ezekiel Among The Exiles

By Wade E. Darby, Pastor, First Baptist Church, Jefferson City

Background Passages: Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2-4; 33:1-9

Focal Passages: Ezekiel 1:1-3; 3:14-17; 4:1-3

Ezekiel Was One of the Exiles.

In 598 B.C., King Jehoiachin and about ten thousand of his fellow Jews, including Ezekiel, were taken captive by Nebuchadnezzar and transported



Darby

nearly one thousand miles to Tel-a-bib by the river Chebar. Nebuchadnezzar had learned not to trust the Jewish kings and their people. He had learned by experience that they held to the idea of an independent Jewish state with an unreal passion. His purpose was to take the strength of Judah and

move it to a place where no harm could be done.

The people were more exiles than captives and, except for travel restrictions it appears that they lived normal lives in Babylon. The Chebar was a long navigable canal which intersected a rich area of land between the Tigris and the Euphrates Rivers. This fertile plain southeast of the city of Babylon was the new home of the exiles.

We know little of Ezekiel's personal life. He was the son of Buzi and was a priest. It is likely that he had received his priestly training but had never functioned as a priest when he was taken captive. In the fifth year of his captivity, he had a tremendous spiritual experience. The "thirtieth year" of Ezek. 1:1 could refer to Ezekiel's age at the time of his "vision." If so, he was taken captive when about twenty-five years old, and was thirty when called to a prophetic function.

Ezekiel Was an Exile with a Vision of God.

Ezekiel tells us he "—was among the captives—and the heavens were opened, and he saw visions of God." (Ezek. 1:1) He describes his spiritual experience in terms of a whirlwind, a great cloud, a fire, four living creatures, wheels within wheels, and the noise of great waters as the voice of the Almighty. The imagery and symbolism of Ezekiel was more meaningful to his original listeners than to us. Whatever else he might have meant to say however, it is evident that he is trying to describe an experience that is beyond description. He is telling us of a subjective experience in which he came to know the will of God for his life.

Last week a young man came to our serv-

ices as a visitor. He is nearly thirty. He has a wife and two children. He was working as a policeman in Fairfax, Va., when he said "The Lord called him to preach." He is in our community to enrol in Carson-Newman College as a freshman.

None of us who heard his testimony thought that he heard an audible voice or that he received a written message from the Lord. We understood that his use of the phrase, "call to the ministry," meant that many experiences over a period of time led him to believe that God wanted him to preach. He was describing a subjective experience that was really beyond description in which he found God's will. Our understanding of the Bible would be enriched if we interpreted the prophet's phrase, "and the Lord said," in the same manner.

The will of God humbled Ezekiel. He fell upon his face (Ezek. 1:28). The character of Israel frightened him. He knew his message and ministry would not be received. He was given assurance that the God who called him would be with him. When he began to share God's concerns and see from God's perspective, he understood everything in a different light. The meaning of the book filled with lamentations and woes was that bad things were in store for Judah and Jerusalem. His eating the book is a way of saying that God's message and will must become a part of his very being.

When this vision had completely gripped Ezekiel, he sat among the exiles in silence for seven days. These are familiar surroundings. He has been in this place for five years. But he has had a vision. He sees everything differently now. He sees from God's perspective. The number "seven" could refer to the seven days of mourning for the dead. (Gen. 50:10) It could call attention to the seven days' period of consecration required for the priest. (Lev. 8:33) Ezekiel had died to self and the past. He was about to begin a prophetic and priestly function among the exiles.

He prepared to tell the exiles that Jerusalem would fall in about six years. He tells them that Judah's sins have brought this coming calamity about. He took tile and built a miniature city. He placed battering rams about it. He took a pan and made a wall of iron of it. He laid on the ground before this miniature city and enacted the coming siege of Jerusalem. He prepared his meals from provisions of siege conditions and enacted in playlet the condi-

tions of war. This was Ezekiel's way of attracting the attention of a people who did not want to hear.

He prepared to tell them that those in exile were the recipients of God's grace. They would escape the ravages of war in Jerusalem. He prepared to guide them to a spiritual understanding of their faith. Heretofore, their faith had been dependent upon a land, a city, and a temple. Now, in a foreign place, they had to learn to relate faith to spiritual values rather than to places and things. This would be a tremendous advance for Israel. Ezekiel's vision was real, gripping, exciting, and frightening.

Ezekiel's Vision Placed Him Under a Tremendous Obligation.

Ezekiel's experience with God gave him a new sensitivity. He was more sensitive to God, to sin, to righteousness, and to judgment. Above all, he was more sensitive to his personal responsibility. He now saw himself as a watchman on the wall. He was no longer just one of the exiles. He was a man with a responsibility.

In ancient times people lived in towns and villages for protection. During the day they worked out. At dusk they came in for safety. The towns had walls. At night a watchman took his place on the wall. While the people slept, he watched. His responsibility was to alert the community at the first sign of danger. Ezekiel's spiritual experience caused him to see his relationship with exiled Judah in such a manner.

This past summer I visited areas of France and Germany where a medieval pattern of living is still followed. There were no farm houses. There were no fences. The people worked in the fields by day and returned to their villages at dusk. Everything was behind walls. In ancient times such was a necessity and the role of the watchman was vital.

Ezekiel saw his responsibilities in terrifying terms. He was responsible for the well-being of others. If he failed, blood would be on his hands. If he was faithful but the people were unresponsive, their blood would be on their own hands. It was not the physical safety of a town that was at stake, but spiritual and moral values. A relationship with God and eternal values were involved.

People who have had a spiritual experience are aware of a new dimension of life. They are aware of new values and new purposes. The issues are different and weighed on different scales. Such people have a responsibility similar to the ancient watchman on the wall. To fail to alert others to the issues is to become guilty of the blood of others. Faithfulness to this responsibility does not guarantee a response. Faithfulness does give clean hands.

BAPTIST AND REFLECTOR
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Tennessee News Briefs



Smothers

D. D. Smothers, a Baptist pastor for over 40 years, and former pastor of the First Baptist churches, of Dyer, Bartlett, and Fayetteville, retired Dec. 31 in Prescott, Ark. He has served as pastor of First Baptist church there for nine years. He is married to the former **Lillian Flowers** of Rutherford, Tenn.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cox, members of the White Oak church in Chattanooga, celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary on Dec. 24. They were married in 1907 in Ringgold, Ga. and are the parents of four children, the grandparents of 10, and the great-grandparents of 18. **Ray E. Fowler** is their pastor.

LEADERSHIP CHANGES

Sam Brooks has accepted the call of the Washington Avenue church in the Stone Association. He served as the first pastor of the church during its mission stage, but resigned later to accept the call as pastor of the Big Springs church in Cleveland. He is already on the field.

Stoney Point church, Loudon County Association, has a new pastor. He is **Paul Johnson**.

In Holston Association, Skyline Heights church has called **George Nave** as assistant to the pastor. He will serve with pastor **Grady Byrd**. In the same association, Emmanuel church called **Jerry Anderson** as assistant pastor. **Howard Robinson** is pastor.

Two pastors have resigned in William Carey Association. They include **Ray Winsett** from Molino church and **Willie Banks** from the Oak Grove church. In the same association, **William O. Johnson** is serving as interim pastor of Kirkland church. He is a former pastor at Elora and New Grove.

Paul Peak is the new minister of education at First church, Murfreesboro. He comes from the Dalewood church in Nashville. **Eugene Cotey** is the pastor.

Robert Miller and **James E. Moore Jr.** were ordained as deacons at Island Home church in Knoxville recently. **Frank Lethcoe** is the pastor.

In the Concord Association, Third church ordained **Mike Escue** and **James B. Arms** as deacons last month. **Jackie Carver**, pastor of Florence church, was married Dec. 17. In the same association, other deacons ordained included **Dean Fisher** at Southeast church and **Gary Pitts**, **Clarence Higgins**, and **Robert Wiser** at Hillview church.

Joe Cody, pastor and associational chairman of evangelism in the Nolachucky Association, has surrendered to full-time service in conducting Lay Witness Schools throughout Tennessee, beginning this month. Schools have been held in three counties in the state thus far; and **Cody** will serve as coordinator for a central school also. He resides in Talbott.

In the Holston Association, Boone Trail church held dedication services for its new building. **Harold Reed** is the pastor. First church, Jonesboro, ordained **Lyndell Kerley** as a deacon. **Samuel Dean** is pastor. Harmony church licensed **Richard A. Anderson** to preach. **Kenneth Jennings** is the pastor. **Anderson** preached his first message recently. **William J. Purdue** observed his tenth anniversary as pastor of First church, Kingsport.

Jack Fox has resigned as treasurer of Central church in Johnson City after serving in the post for 20 years. He will be succeeded by **Dean Droke**. **James Canaday** is the pastor.

Linkous Retiring After 52 Years In The Ministry

Hobert M. Linkous, pastor of the Boulevard church in Chattanooga for the past 18 years, retired this month. He has been a Baptist pastor for 52 years, with most of his ministry spent in the Chattanooga area.

The Boulevard church was relocated from Rossville Blvd. into a new building complex on Dabney Drive in East Ridge under Linkous' leadership. The pastor has conducted over 1000 revival meetings, and has led approximately 25 men to surrender to the gospel ministry. Several churches in the Chattanooga area have resulted from his work.

Both his father, **J. W. Linkous**, and his brother, **Ollie Linkous**, served as pastors also. The elder Linkous was in the ministry for 57 years, and the brother served 28 years, a total of 137 years of service by the three members.

Tennessee Royal Ambassadors Break All Records

The Royal Ambassador membership enrollment of the Tennessee Baptist Convention reached its all time high membership in 1972. The membership now is 14,200 boys. This is from 65 Associations and 769 churches reporting Royal Ambassador work. This is an increase of 1,719 over last year and 575 over the all time high set in 1961 which was 13,625. **Roy J. Gilleland Jr.** is Brotherhood Secretary of the Tennessee Baptist Convention. **William E. Highsmith** is Royal Ambassador Secretary.

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Belmont's Blanton Hall gutted in Dec. 30 fire.

BELMONT TRUSTEES VOTE (Continued from page 1)

Sept. 1 as the target date for completion.

Concerning costs involved, Preston said that to rebuild Blanton Hall as was would cost \$2,200,000. There were 71,000 square feet in Blanton as compared to 55,000-60,000 square feet in the two new buildings together. President Gabhart stated, "This is adequate for our requirements now and for a number of years in the future. Blanton had a lot of wasted space and was built 30 years before Baptists occupied the campus. We inherited a non-functional building that was neither practical or adequate for the needs of a four year, co-educational college."

Trustees Pledge \$100,000

Before the trustees pledged the \$95,000, Gabhart "challenged them to make a pledge on the spot over and above any pledge or commitment already made to the school. He told the group, "This must be a cash project, paid for when completed." He continued, "I cannot face a foundation, a church, or an individual with a request for a gift without stating that the board took the lead. I won't tell you how much to give, just give until it feels good." Prior to the meeting of the board, one trustee had already pledged \$5000, making total pledges

of \$100,000 on the part of the trustees at the time of their meeting.

Concerning insurance coverage on Blanton Hall, Gabhart said, "We may only speculate. The insurance adjusters have not been able to assess the loss as of this date."

During the first week of classes following the fire, the school began relying on its other facilities in compensating for its loss. Henry Horrell, Nashville businessman and chairman of the Board of Trustees, said, "I believe we would have had to shut this college down if it had not been for the new Center for Business Administration which opened last fall."

The education committee of the Tennessee Baptist Convention was scheduled to meet on Belmont's campus on Tuesday, Jan. 9. Wade Darby, pastor, First church, Jefferson City, serves as committee chairman.

New Books

Miracles in My Life by Rex Humbard, Spire book, Revell, 128 pp., paper.

A Symposium on Creation IV by Donald W. Patten, Baker, 159 pp., paper, \$2.95.

Rags, Tags, and Gentle Tears by Billie Pate, Broadman, paper. Insights for youth—and adults who care.

World Alliance Sunday Is Scheduled Feb. 4

Many of the 140,000 Baptist congregations in 100 countries will participate in Baptist World Alliance Sunday, Feb. 4. The 1973 date will mark the formal start of the World Mission of Reconciliation Through Jesus Christ, a three-year globe-encircling emphasis on evangelism and the application of Christian principles to all of life's areas, according to V. Carney Hargroves, president of the international Baptist Fellowship.

The Alliance is a voluntary association of 92 Baptist conventions and unions in 74 countries. Hargroves said that member churches throughout the world are encouraged to use BWA Sunday to emphasize the international nature of their fellowship. Sermons, special prayers, pulpit exchanges, youth rallies, men's breakfasts, and fellowship dinners could be implemented into the programs for the day, the president suggested.

Men of the churches will draw attention to an International Conference of Baptist Men, scheduled for Nov. 5-10, 1973 in Jerusalem. The eighth Baptist Youth World Conference will be held in Portland, Ore., July 31-Aug. 4, 1974. Major emphasis for the date, however, will be on the World Mission of Reconciliation, a project voted by 8500 delegates from 78 nations at the twelfth Baptist World Congress in Tokyo in 1970.

Donald E. Pryor Selected As Manager For Camp Linden



Pryor

Donald E. Pryor, Franklin, has been selected to serve as manager of Camp Linden for the 1973 summer session, according to James McDonald, business manager for the Tennessee Baptist Convention.

Pryor is employed by the Metropolitan Public Schools of Nashville and teaches at Hillwood High school. He is a graduate of Austin Peay State university and Middle Tennessee State university.

He is a member of First church, Nashville.

Speaking for the Master by Batsell Barrett Baxter, Baker, 134 pp., paper, \$2.25.

A Christian View of Origins by Donald England, Baker, 138 pp., paper, \$2.95.

I Believe in Visions by Kenneth E. Hagin, Fleming H. Revell Company, 126 pp., \$1.95. A personal story of a man whose life and ministry have been influenced by visions of Jesus.

MISSIONARY NEWS

Rev. and Mrs. F. Calvin Parker, missionaries who have completed furlough in the States, are scheduled to depart Jan. 2 for Japan (address: 1309 Soja, Sojamachi, Maebashi, Japan 371). A Floridian, he was born in Apopka and grew up in Tampa. She is the former Harriett Hale of Hamblen County, Tenn. At the time of their appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in 1951, he was pastor of Hibbit Baptist church, Dexter, Tex.

Dr. and Mrs. Daniel M. Carroll, Jr., missionaries, were scheduled to arrive Dec. 15 for a short furlough in the States (address: 117 Pickle St., Shelbyville, Tenn. 37160). Carroll is a native of Bluefield, W. Va. Mrs. Carroll, the former Betty Alice Gowan, was born in Smithfield, N. C., and lived in several Southern towns while growing up. When they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1953, he was education director of South Fort Worth (Tex.) Baptist church.

Rev. and Mrs. Charles E. Buckner, missionaries on furlough from Indonesia, may now be addressed at 204 Gilmer St., Kingsport, Tenn. 37665. Buckner, a North Caro-

Miami Church Musicians Reach National Audience

MIAMI—A youth group at Riverside Baptist church here has reached a nationwide television audience for the second time in a year with its Christian message in song.

Director Jack Day said the group, called The New Directions, reached 60 million people when it appeared as part of the televised Orange Bowl football festivities in Miami.

Earlier, the group sang at both Democratic and Republican National Conventions meeting at Miami Beach to nominate candidates for President, Day reported.

The New Directions offer a program of music that "embraces love of Christ, church, and fellow man," its director indicated. It consists of 165 vocalists and a 15-piece band. (BP)

linian, was born in Asheville and lived on a farm near Marshall while growing up. Mrs. Buckner is the former Mary Anne Moore of Kingsport. When they were appointed by the Foreign Mission Board in 1967, he was pastor of First Baptist church, Ashville, Ohio.

150 Swedish Baptist Pastors Meet

One hundred and fifty Swedish Baptist pastors met in Tranas, in southern Sweden, recently to concentrate on the theme, "Together in a Divided World."

Lecturers included Bert Franzen, president of the theological seminary of the Baptist Union of Sweden, who spoke on the subject, "Inspired Speech in the Acts of the Apostles"; Siegfried Deminger, newly-appointed president of the theological seminary of the Oerebro Mission, another Baptist group in Sweden, who spoke on "Charisma in the New Testament and Now", and Lars Ake Person, secretary of education for the Baptist Union of Sweden, who spoke on "The Problems of the Generations." (EBPS)



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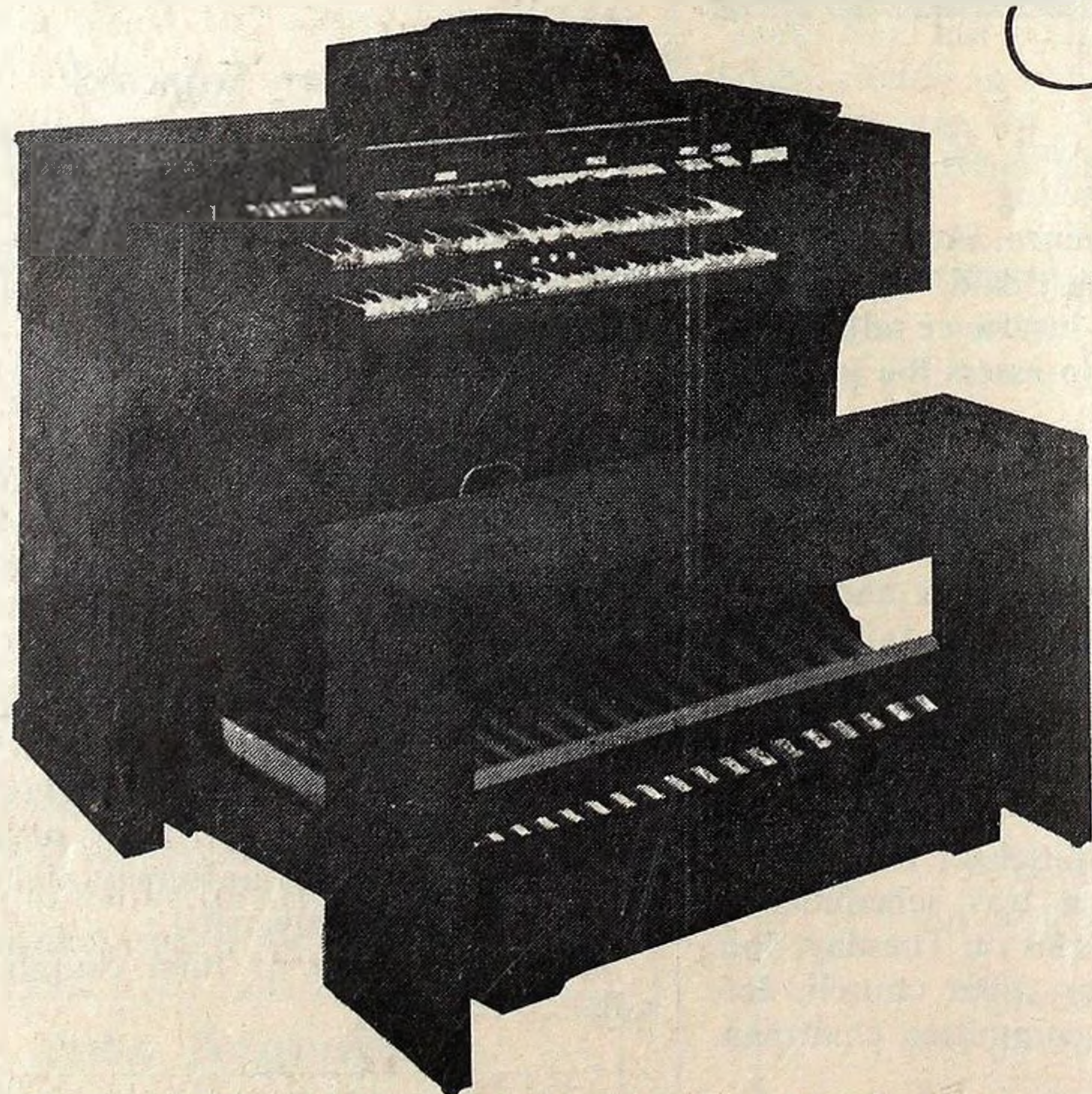
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WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

By T. B. Maston

Professor of Christian Ethics, Retired
Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary

"And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' " (Acts 2:12, RSV).

Why were the people amazed? It was because these people of many languages each heard "in his own native language" (v. 8).

What was the secret to the fact that the disciples spoke languages that they did not know? You remember, of course, that this was at the Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit had come upon the disciples. The record says, "And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (v. 4). The secret to the speaking in tongues on the Day of Pentecost was the filling of the Spirit.

There are some things happening in the contemporary period that should cause us to ask: What does this mean? Is it a new manifestation of the moving of the Holy Spirit? Or is it a natural or human phenomenon?

There is a rather widespread speaking in tongues movement which is quite different from the Pentecost experience. Also, there have been reports of revivals with hundreds and even thousands of decisions. Also, there is the Jesus Movement and similar trends among young people. It is natural that the question should be asked: What do these things mean? Are they new manifestations of the work and power of the Holy Spirit? We should search honestly for an answer until we find it. As we search, we should remember that Jesus compared the Spirit to the wind that "blows where it wills" (John 3:8). It could be tragic if we attributed to the Devil the work of the Divine Spirit.

Polish Baptist Named To Relief Committee

Michal Stankiewicz, president of the Baptist Union of Poland, is among the four new members added to the relief committee of the Baptist World Alliance in order to make it more representative of the Baptists of the world.

Other new members are Buhika Wa-Kapata, of Zaire; Manuel A. Calderon, of Colombia; and Wellington Solomon, of India.

These join the seven appointed at Tokyo in July, 1970, to serve under the chairmanship of Chester J. Jump, Jr., of the United States. The other six are R. Fred Bullen, of Canada; Gerhard Claas, of Germany; and Baker J. Cauthen, Warren R. Magnuson, Mrs. R. L. Mathis, and G. K. Zimmerman, of the United States. (EBPS)

About those foreign missions ads:



Recently we ran a series of ads about foreign missions personnel needs. Emphasis was placed on calls for evangelists, student workers, physicians, agriculturalists. We could also add social workers, teachers, and nurses—all are critical needs.

Phrases and words such as "divine call", "willingness", and "qualified" were used because these are prerequisites for overseas missionary service.

Why the ads? Southern Baptists need to know that their overseas missionaries have requested 800 additional personnel, that the need for worldwide Christian witness is critical and the opportunities are great.

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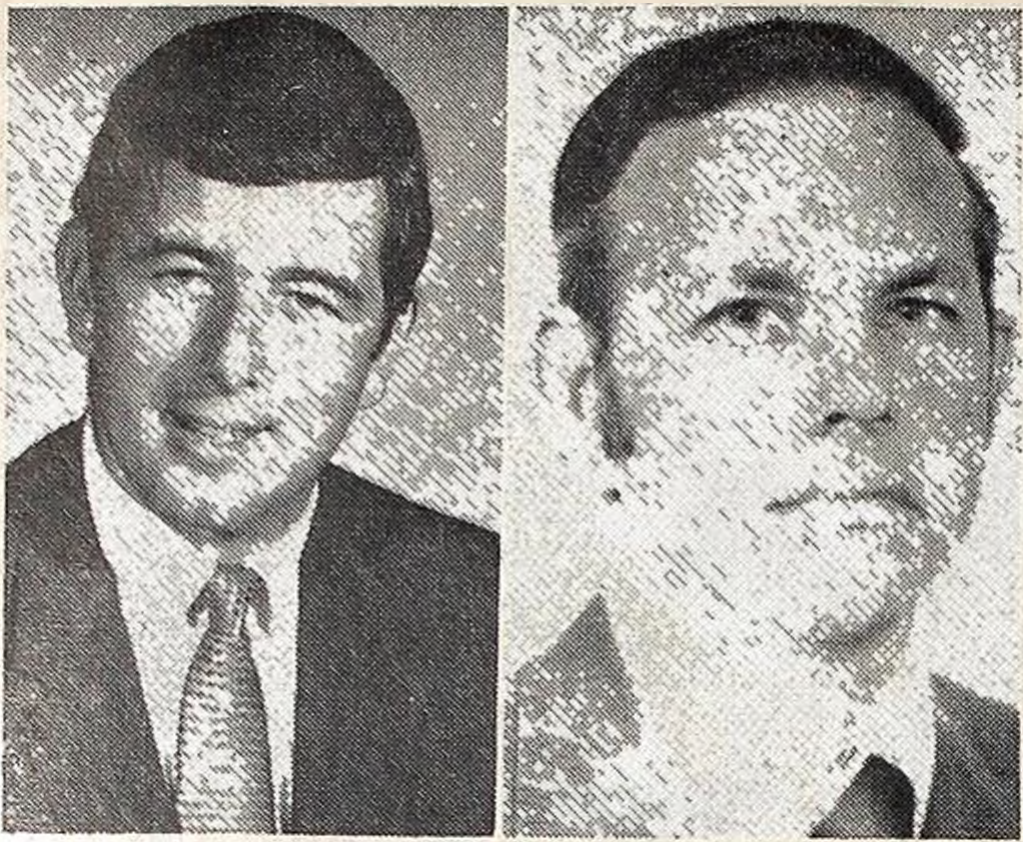
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Check One: ☐ Pastor ☐ Church Staff Member
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☐ Other (Specify)

Comment:

Send to

Needs Packet, Foreign Mission Board, SBC,
P.O. Box 6597, Richmond, Virginia 23230



Billie K. Friel, left, and Raymond A. Crawford received degrees from the New Orleans Baptist Theological seminary, New Orleans, La., recently. Friel received the Specialist in Education degree and Crawford received the Doctor of Theology degree. Friel is pastor of First Baptist church, Mt. Juliet. Crawford, a native of Fayetteville and a graduate of Belmont college, is Baptist Student Director at Tulane university, New Orleans.

Bell Choir Festival To Be Held In Memphis

The first bell choir festival for handbell choirs will be held in Tennessee Jan. 26-27 at the Union Avenue church in Memphis, according to Frank Char-ton, state music secretary. Don Allured, Lake Charles, La., will be the guest clinician, and will lead in a discussion of technique, literature, performance opportunities, equipment, and various types of bells. Allured directs handbell groups and has written several pieces of music arranged for handbells.



Allured

The clinic festival, sponsored jointly by the Church Music Department of the Tennessee Baptist Convention and the Shelby Baptist Association, will convene at 2:00 p.m. Friday with a directors' meeting. Other events for the day will include adjudication of individual bell choirs and a mass rehearsal of selections for festival ringing. A festival music rehearsal will be held Saturday morning beginning at 9:30; followed by a festival presentation at 10:45.



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Ernest Standerfer Joins Stewardship Commission

NASHVILLE—Ernest D. Standerfer has joined the staff of the Stewardship Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention here as the new Assistant Director of Stewardship Development effective Jan. 1, the commission announced.



Standerfer

Standerfer will serve as editor of stewardship materials. He will also serve as coordinator for the channeling of articles and curriculum in convention publications relating to Stewardship Commission assigned program emphases, said E. Stanley Williamson, director of stewardship development. The addition of Standerfer to the Stewardship Commission staff will make it possible to more adequately meet the increasing requests from many states in the convention for assistance in their stewardship development programs, Williamson said.

Standerfer is a graduate of Southern Illinois University and Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary.

Before joining the Stewardship Commission he served as pastor of the first Baptist Church of Carterville, Ill. He has also served on the board of directors of the Illinois Baptist State association and the state's constitutional committee. (BP)

Children's Homes

Spiritual Orphans

By James M. Gregg
Executive Director

For many years we were known as "Tennessee Baptist Orphan's Home." Because the majority of our children are not orphans, we changed our name to "Children's Homes."

However, we have in Tennessee another group of needy children. They are not orphans because their father is dead, but because he has neglected them. Many men are too busy to care for their own flesh and blood in their eager pursuit of wealth and pleasure. They feel that if they provide for the physical and material needs of their families such as shelter, food, clothing, and recreation, they have done their duty. However, they are making spiritual orphans of their own children unless they provide for their Christian training as well.

We give constant attention to the spiritual needs of our children as well as their physical and mental needs. For more than eight decades, Tennessee Baptists have made this Christian child care possible. Thank you.

Race Relations Sunday Scheduled For Feb. 11

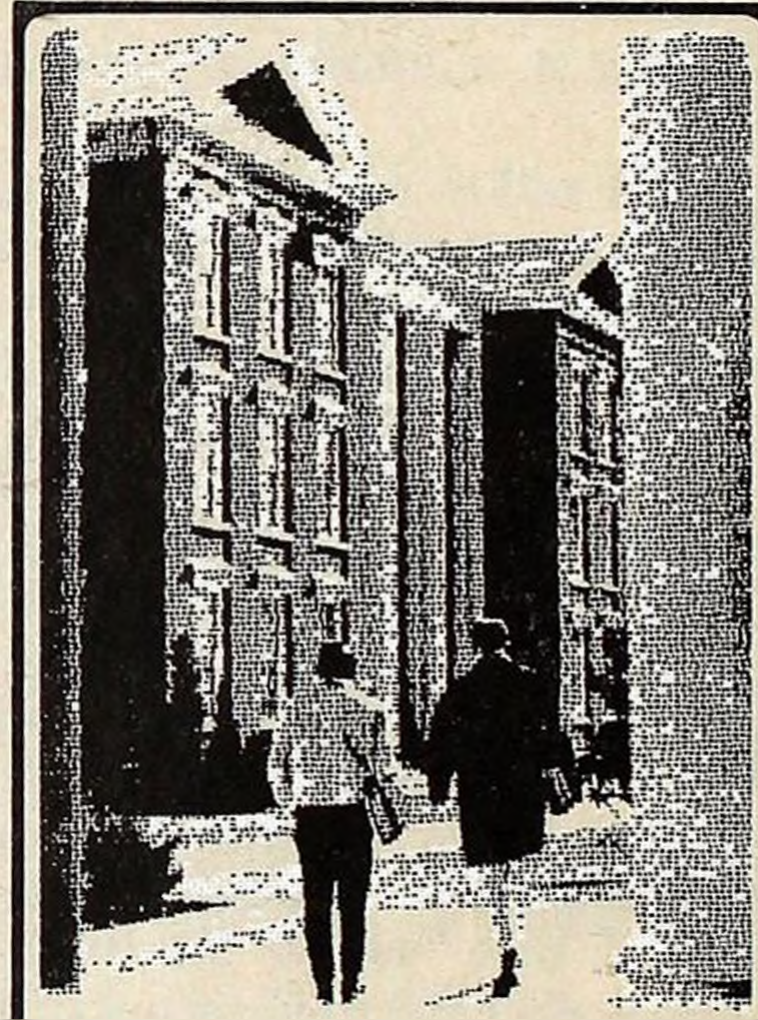
Race Relations Sunday will be observed in Tennessee churches and throughout the Southern Baptist Convention on February 11, according to Foy Valentine, executive secretary of the "Christian Life Commission."

The theme for the emphasis day will be "You Are the Light," Valentine said. The day has been observed by Southern Baptists since 1966 when it was included on the denominational calendar, and is used to emphasize the need for a strengthened ministry among the races, Valentine said.

Information packets have been sent to churches in Tennessee. They include posters, pamphlets, discussion guides, and suggestions for observing the special day.

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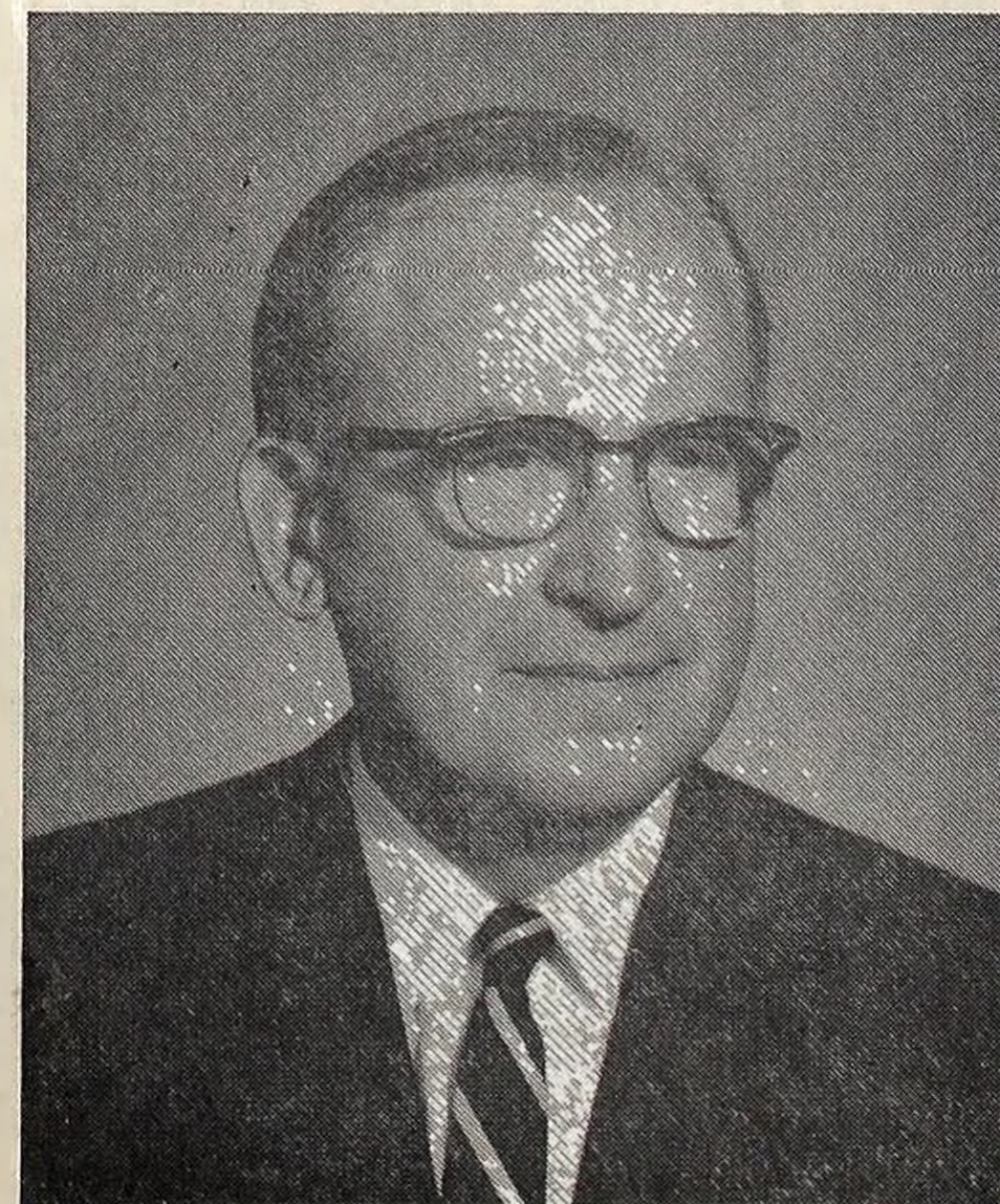
As with spiritual truths—fire may destroy the body, but not the soul.

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OF COURSE, OUR FINANCIAL NEEDS ARE GREATER THAN EVER BEFORE. BEYOND THESE NEEDS HOWEVER, YOUR PRAYERS AND SUPPORT—AND YOUR STUDENTS ARE NEEDED AS A PART OF OUR STUDENT BODY.



God's Way And Ours

By W. R. White

Baylor University, Waco, Texas

Basic Passage: 1 Corinthians 1:18 to 2:16

Focal Passages: 1 Corinthians 1:22-24, 26-31; 2:12-14

It is difficult to keep the concepts of the world out of the church. The concept of God is just the opposite from the basic concepts of the world.

The world believes that success and well being are to be achieved by shrewdness, self seeking, inordinate ambition, thrift, determination, diplomatic manipulation and reckless driving power. Some of these concepts have a measure of merit but most of them can precipitate strife and can result in impoverishment of others. In fact they involve the possibility of dishonesty, revenge and ruthlessness. Too often these concepts gain considerable material and secular success. They afford certain forms of pleasurable excitement for a while.

The idea that the way to true success and real well-being which Christ revealed in the way of the cross was so revolutionary to the world's concepts. Self-abasement, self-denial, meekness and humility appeared to secular man as a sign of folly and weakness. In fact it appears to the worldly wise as ridiculous.

Spectacular and Philosophical vs. the Cross 1 Cor. 1:22-24

The Jews were interested in a reassuring spectacular, supernatural sign. The Greeks sought the logical conclusion issuing from a rational process. Being religiously oriented, the Jews wanted a convincing demonstration from Almighty God and His intervention. The Greeks made much of the reliability of well-trained, highly enlightened, capable minds.

The vicarious self-giving of Christ on the cross and the voluntary self-denying, self-giving attitude of Christ on the part of His disciples is the way God has devised for the human problem.

Perception, Power and Prominence vs. Humility and Holiness 1 Cor.

The wise, the mighty, the prestigious and heroes after the flesh have made a big splash in history. The world readily turns to them. They have their day and pass on. The world seems to go forward and greatly succeed for a while but man has built one civilization after another and then has destroyed each.

We have many instances where lowly men and women of no great mentality have arisen and worked wonders for human good. They have contributed many priceless values to the treasury of history. They have been very humble and deeply dedicated. By God's enobling might they have

done extraordinary things with ordinary gifts. At least the world had discounted and despised them. God has a strange way of making "somebodys" out of "nobodys".

**The Science of the Senses vs. the Sensitivity of the Spirit
1 Cor. 2:12-14**

Man assembles data which he has received from the five senses and interprets what he has experienced with his mind. The facts observed by the senses are so obviously real that many men conclude that the only reality is what may be sensed by the physical senses and interpreted by material criteria through mental analysis. That is scientism but not pure science.

In the realm of the sensations of the inner man or spirit the most meaningful experiences come. This is a very vital point of the total man. The Spirit of God makes alive in a special way the inner man. The Spirit of God and the spirit of man bear witness with each other concerning spiritual realities.

The spirit of man is alert to the deeper things of a man. The Spirit of God is alert to the deep things of God. The Spirit of God can impart to the spirit of man the mind of God.

The dog can read the mind of his master to a limited degree by external appearances and movements of his master. Yet the greater and deeper things of the master's mind are closed to him. If the master could put his spirit into the inner consciousness of the dog, then he could know much more

Foundation

UNTIL JESUS COMES

By Jonas L. Stewart

Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The story of the Tennessee Baptist Foundation will not be completely told until Jesus comes again. Through its services Christian stewards who are in heaven today are still witnessing for Christ on earth.

This is possible for any of us by making a Will, leaving all or a part of our estate at death to the Foundation as trustee, designating the income for any Cause of our choice.

A couple made their will leaving their estate to the Foundation. The income from the estate is to provide for their parents as long as they live. At the parents' death or at their death if the parents do not survive them, it is to be used to support our Children's Homes. Thus, they will be buying food and clothes for unfortunate children until Jesus comes again.

Our Baptist schools, Children's Homes, and other Causes are hindered in their work for lack of funds. God has provided Baptist people with more surplus material possessions than ever before. We must not believe that this is wholly without purpose. What greater testimony is there than for one to leave all or a part of his estate in trust to provide income for a Cause dear to him? An estate left to the Tennessee Baptist Foundation forever remains the property of the Foundation but the income from it would be working for the Lord until Jesus comes.

For further information write Tennessee Baptist Foundation, Dr. Jonas L. Stewart, Executive Secretary, P. O. Box 647, Brentwood, Tennessee 37027.

about the meaningful things of his master.

Physical truth is physically conditioned. Spiritual truth is spiritually conditioned. There must be spiritual discernment to ascertain deeper spiritual truth and reality.



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From the Executive Secretary

By Ralph E. Norton

Along with the blessings which we have experienced here at the beginning of the new year has come the tragedy of the loss by fire of Blanton Hall on the campus of Belmont College. This is a tremendous loss for all of Tennessee Baptists, for together we form one big family which includes not only the churches but the institutions which we support and in which all of us are vitally interested. A tragedy such as this affects not only the school



Norton

but all of the work in our State.

We extend to Dr. Gabhart, President, and the trustees of the college our sincere concern for them as they face the tremendous task of solving the problem created by this loss. Our schools are already facing extreme financial pressure and this sudden tragedy increases the existing problems. We feel that the hearts of all Tennessee Baptists will be much in prayer for those involved in handling this problem and for the students of Belmont who are so vitally affected by this tragedy.

The month of January continues to be a busy time for us. I will be speaking at the East Tennessee Baptist Pastors' Conference which meets at Carson-Newman College today. We trust and pray that this will be a rewarding experience and that many of our pastors will be privileged to attend this conference.

New Books

Devotional Dramas for Christmas, Broadman Press, 32 pp., \$.95. Seven dramatic features easy to produce which can be used for assembly programs or worship services.

First Corinthians For Today by Robert J. Dean, Broadman Press, 160 pp. Lively application of Paul's counsel for solving modern problems.

Affirmations Of Our Faith by Clifton J. Allen, Broadman Press, 128 pp.

Holy Bible, King James version, hard cover, Broadman Press.

The Miracle of Love by Charles L. Allen, Fleming H. Revell Company, 126 pp., \$3.95. Thirty-one different versions of I Corinthians 13 following.

What Happened to Bethany? by Ann Thompson, Tyndale House, 98 pp., \$1.25. A true story of a simple trust and faith as told by a mother faced with the certain death of her 3-month-old daughter and how

Historically:

From the files

50 YEARS AGO

Announcement was made that a new magazine, "The Baptist Student," was being published by the Baptist Sunday School Board. Under the editorship of Frank Leavell, the magazine was recommended for all students and BYPU workers and leaders.

George L. Hale, pastor of the Belmont Heights church in Nashville, resigned to enter evangelistic work in Missouri. Members were proceeding with plans for the construction of a \$100,000 church edifice.

20 YEARS AGO

Two new churches were organized in the state: the First Baptist church of Mason and the Midway Baptist church in Soddy. The Mason church called Harold Alexander as pastor. The Soddy church was organized from a mission.

A new practice of holding an additional Sunday morning worship service came into being in Tennessee. The service, usually held before the Sunday School hour, drew worshippers unable to attend the regular worship hour. First church, Newport, reported a 40 per cent increase in the Sunday attendance since the initiation of the extra service.

10 YEARS AGO

For the first time in 100 years, the percentage of church members to total population in the United States registered a decrease, according to an editorial by Richard N. Owen. He stated that Baptists would have to "run fast to stay where they are" in relation to evangelizing the lost.

Charles L. Norton, state Training Union secretary, completed 20 years of service in that post and was honored with a surprise luncheon in Gatlinburg by state Training Union workers.

the wonderful power of God overcomes all.

Fellowship With God by F. B. Meyer, Baker, 127 pp., paper, 95¢.

Satan, His Personality, Power and Overthrow by E. M. Bounds, Baker, 157 pp., paper, 95¢.

Success in the Christian Life by D. L. Moody, Baker, 125 pp., paper, 95¢.

Power Through Prayer by E. M. Bounds, 128 pp., paper, 95¢.

On Matters of

Family

Living

By Dr. B. David Edens,
Director, Marriage and
Family Program
Stephens College
Columbia, Missouri 65201



Predict Change In Child Custody To Favor Divorced Fathers

When "home-making" is concentrated in the hours before 8 a.m. and after 5 p.m., divorced fathers can compete with divorced mothers for the custody of their children, it was pointed out at a Parents Without Partners meeting here.

The custody of young children still goes to the mothers in 9 out of 10 cases of divorce, "but in the years to come we're going to see a changeover," predicted Dr. Thomas Showalter, Supt. of Elyria schools.

Already, in some states, women are not legally entitled to receive support payments from their former husbands, he pointed out. They must get jobs and hire babysitters to take care of their children, or enroll them in day care centers. "Why should the husband not also have the right of custody and hire babysitters or use day care centers to care for the children?"

Another speaker, Judge Henry T. Webber, observed that even now more fathers would be granted custody of their minor children if they showed the interest. "But many of them don't want the responsibility," he said, noting that immaturity and the inability to tolerate frustration are common underlying causes of broken marriages, and that, often, there may be a new wife who doesn't want children of the first marriage around.

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Baptist Pastor Recalls Truman Warmth, Humor

By Toby Druin

RALEIGH, N.C.—President Harry S Truman is remembered by many Americans for being blunt and plain-spoken and for an occasional profanity. But the man who served him as pastor during the years of his presidential administration remembers him for his warmth and kindness—and his humor.

Edward Hughes Pruden, pastor of First Baptist church, Washington, D.C., from 1936 to 1969, including all the years of Truman's presidency from 1945-1953, mourned the death of the former Chief Executive. Pruden is living here in retirement and serves as minister in residence at Meredith College, North Carolina Baptist college for women.

The former Washington pastor said he knew that much had already been said and written about Truman's blunt mannerisms. "But I appreciated his warm personality," he said. "Behind all that was a gentle, kind man that few people got a chance to know."

President Truman, a Baptist, attended Pruden's church as a senator and vice-president. He came regularly after attaining the presidency, Pruden reported.

"He asked no special favors," Pruden said. "He wanted to be treated like any other member of the congregation."

The President usually walked the approximately eight blocks to the church from the White House and always attended the first of the two morning services.

"I would get a call about 9:30 a.m. from a Secret Service man telling me that the President had left his office for the church," Pruden said.

"He was scrupulously punctual, always participating in the service, and invariably expressed a word of appreciation as I walked with him from the sanctuary to the street when the service had been concluded."

Pruden noted that in the book, "Mr. President," a quote from Truman's diary states: "I go for a walk and go to church. The preacher always treats me as a church member and not the head of a circus. That is the reason I go to the First Baptist Church. Once I went to another church where the pastor made a real show of the occasion. I will never go back. I do not go to church for show. I dislike headline hunters."

In a letter to Pruden, the President wrote: "I get a lot of pleasure out of coming to church. I don't want you

ever to feel that you are in any way handicapped on your freedom of speech and expression just because I happen to be there. I want to be treated like every other citizen and every other good Baptist.

"One of the things I am one hundred per cent for is freedom of expression as long as it is within the bounds of reason and decency."

Nevertheless, Pruden said he felt their relationship was somewhat strained by Truman's announcement he would appoint Gen. Mark Clark as his personal envoy to the Vatican. Pruden and other Protestant and Jewish leaders in the capital voiced their opposition.

Pruden said that he tried to make it clear that his opposition was to the appointment and not directed at Truman himself. "I honestly felt that he was under the impression that it would be best for the country. The cold war had begun and apparently he felt that he could get information from the Vatican foreign office that was unavailable elsewhere."

Clark resolved the controversy by withdrawing from consideration from the post, but Pruden said President Truman stopped attending church services.

The Clark controversy almost coincided with an attempt on the President's life by Puerto Rican gunmen, however, and Pruden said the church was ruled off limits for the President for security reasons. The pastor said he would rather believe the attempt on the President's life was what stopped his church-going and not any lingering ill-feeling over the Clark episode.

"I visited him several times after that and corresponded with him and always found him cordial," Pruden said.

The President had his humorous side. Pruden recalled that once when the Sunday morning offering was being counted, a \$5 bill was found with Truman's signature written across it.

Attached to the bill was a note on White House stationery that read, "The deacon who finds this bill can keep it as a souvenir if he puts two like it in its place."

And once the President came to the church to attend a meeting of the Baptist World Alliance. He arrived in the Presidential limousine and Pruden said that as the President stepped out of the car he removed his overcoat and handed it to a secret service man with the admonition: "Keep your eye on this; there are a lot of Baptists around here."

"In personal conversations with him, I found him to be warm, cordial and unusually thoughtful," Pruden said. "He was the kind of person anyone would enjoy having for a next door neighbor."

"This is the Truman I remember."

Mormons Dedicate Modern Church Distribution Center

SALT LAKE CITY—A vast distribution facility with more than four acres of space under its roof, and stacks of supplies 14 feet high, has been dedicated here by Harold B. Lee, president of the Latter-Day Saint (Mormon) church, and his second counselor, Marion G. Romney.

The center has the responsibility for distribution of church supplies to all English-speaking areas, including servicemen, except for Great Britain which is served from the Manchester center, and the Australia and New Zealand area which comes under the Auckland, N.Z., distribution center. A large wall map in the new center shows the location of nine other distribution centers.

The site was selected two years ago. Seventeen acres of property were acquired, and construction for the center began in August 1971. Built on 12 acres of ground, the building contains a total of 177,000 square feet of space.

Adequate black-topped areas for handling all sizes of trucks for incoming and outgoing freight were provided, along with adequate parking space. Railroad spur trackage accommodates as many as eight rail cars.

Automatic dock levelers and cushioned openings are provided, and facilities for handling materials in quantity are provided.

John E. Car is director of Distribution and Translation Services. Neil W. Kooyman is distribution manager, Nolan B. Leishman, warehouse manager, and Russell G. Wilkinson, supply store manager. (RNS)

U.N. Officials In Moscow Refuse Petition For Jews

MOSCOW—United Nations officials here refused to accept a human rights petition from 200 Soviet Jews urging the formation of an international commission to investigate violations of the Universal Human Rights Declaration adopted 24 years ago.

According to a Moscow Radio report, U.N. officials said the petition addressed to Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, could not be accepted under a still-standing order of former U.N. Secretary General U Thant.

Professors Benjamin Levich, Alexander Lerner, Alexander Voronel and David Azbel were among those who signed the petition which accused the Soviet government of violating the human rights of Soviet Jews, by refusing the "free right of emigration."

The 24th anniversary of the signing of the human rights document was Dec. 10. The Soviet Union was among the signers. (RNS)

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